

CLAIMS

1. An audio system that provides a plurality of speaker output signals to a plurality of loud speakers, said audio system comprising:

an FM receiver that receives an input signal and demodulates said input signal to provide a an audio output signal, and also provides a control signal indicative of the reception quality of said audio output signal; and

a multichannel sound reproduction system that receives said audio output signal and said control signal, and provides the plurality of speaker output signals wherein the sound reproduction associated with the plurality of speaker output signals is set by said multichannel sound reproduction system as a function of said control signal.

2. The audio system of claim 1, wherein said control signal is derived from a quality signal generated from a tuner of said FM stereo receiver.

3. The audio system of claim 1, wherein stereo, pseudo-stereo, and mono sound reproduction is selectively provided in said multichannel sound reproduction system in response to stereo component in said audio output signal.

4. The audio system of claim 3, wherein said multichannel sound reproduction provides the plurality of speaker output signals as stereo signals when the stereo component in said audio output signal falls below a first specified threshold value.

5. The audio system of claim 3, wherein said multichannel sound reproduction provides the

3 plurality of speaker output signals as pseudo-stereo signals when the stereo component in said audio
4 output signal falls below a second specified threshold value.

1 6. The audio system of claim 3, wherein said multichannel sound reproduction provides the
2 plurality of speaker output signals as mono signals when the stereo component in said audio output
3 signal falls below a third specified threshold value.

1 7. Method for controlling a multichannel sound reproduction system with a plurality of speakers
2 (L1-L6) which is connected to the output of an FM stereo receiver that controls the stereo and mono
3 component in the output signal in response to the reception signal,

4 *characterized in that*

5 a control signal derived from the reception quality controls the sound reproduction of the
6 multichannel sound reproduction system.

1 8. Method according to claim 7,

2 *characterized in that*

3 the control signal from the FM stereo receiver to control the stereo and mono component is
4 provided to control the multichannel sound reproduction system.

1 9. Method according to claim 7,

2 *characterized in that*

3 the control signal to control the multichannel sound reproduction system is derived from a
4 quality signal generated from the tuner of the FM stereo receiver (FM).

1 10. Method according to claim 1,

2 *characterized in that*

3 stereo, pseudo-stereo, or mono sound reproduction is effected within the multichannel sound
4 reproduction system in response to the stereo component in the output signal of the FM stereo
5 receiver.

1 11. Method according to claim 10,

2 *characterized in that*

3 stereo reproduction occurs when the stereo component in the output signal of the FM stereo
4 receiver falls below a specified threshold value in the multichannel sound reproduction system.

1 12. Method according to claim 10,

2 *characterized in that*

3 pseudo-stereo reproduction occurs when the stereo component in the output signal of the FM
4 stereo receiver falls below a specified threshold value in the multichannel sound reproduction
5 system.

1 13. Method according to claim 10,

2 *characterized in that*

3 mono reproduction occurs when the stereo component in the output signal of the FM stereo
4 receiver (FM) falls below a specified threshold value in the multichannel sound reproduction system.

1 14. Method according to claim 10,

2 *characterized in that*

3 in the multichannel sound reproduction system: stereo reproduction occurs when the stereo
4 component in the output signal of the FM stereo receiver lies below a first threshold value, pseudo-
5 stereo reproduction occurs when the stereo component lies below a second threshold value, and

6 mono reproduction occurs when the stereo component lies below a third threshold value – the first
7 threshold value being greater than the second, and the second being greater than the third.

1 15. An audio system, comprising:

2 an FM stereo receiver that provides a audio output signal and a control signal indicative of
3 the reception quality of said audio output signal;

4 a multichannel sound reproduction system with a plurality of speakers which is connected
5 to the output of an FM stereo receiver in which the stereo component and the mono component are
6 controlled in the output signal in response to the reception signal,

7 *characterized in that*

8 a control signal derived from the reception quality is provided to control the sound
9 reproduction of the sound reproduction system.

10 16. Multichannel sound reproduction system according to claim 15,

11 *characterized in that*

12 the control signal from the FM stereo receiver to control the stereo and mono component is
13 provided to control the multichannel sound reproduction system.

14 17. Multichannel sound reproduction system according to claim 15,

15 *characterized in that*

16 the control signal to control the multichannel sound reproduction system is derived from a
17 quality signal generated from the tuner of the FM stereo receiver.

18 18. Multichannel sound reproduction system according to claim 15,

19 *characterized in that*

3 stereo, pseudo-stereo, or mono sound reproduction is provided in the multichannel sound
4 reproduction system in response to the stereo component in the output signal of the FM stereo
5 receiver.

1 19. Multichannel sound reproduction system according to claim 17,

2 *characterized in that*

3 stereo reproduction is provided when the stereo component in the output signal of the FM
4 stereo receiver falls below a specified threshold value in the multichannel sound reproduction
5 system.

1 20. Multichannel sound reproduction system according to claim 17,

2 *characterized in that*

3 pseudo-stereo reproduction is provided when the stereo component in the output signal of
4 the FM stereo receiver falls below a specified threshold value in the multichannel sound
5 reproduction system.

1 21. Multichannel sound reproduction system according to claim 17,

2 *characterized in that*

3 mono reproduction is provided when the stereo component in the output signal of the FM
4 stereo receiver falls below a specified threshold value in the multichannel sound reproduction
5 system.

1 22. Multichannel sound reproduction system according to claim 17,

2 *characterized in that*

3 in the multichannel sound reproduction system, stereo reproduction is provided when the

4 stereo component in the output signal of the FM stereo receiver lies below a first threshold value,
5 pseudo-stereo reproduction is provided when the stereo component lies below a second threshold
6 value, and mono reproduction is provided when the stereo component lies below a third threshold
7 value – the first threshold value being greater than the second, and the second being greater than the
8 third.